भूमिहीन रोजगार गारन्टी कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत इन्दिरा आवास योजना के लिए उद्दिष्ट नियतनों से निर्मित किए जाने वाले मकानों की संख्या समय पर वार्षिक आधार पर बनाई जाती है।

Study on Soil erosion

2231. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:
DR. R. K. PODDAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent study of the Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute, ICAR Dehradun on top soil erosion in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute, ICAR, Dehradun and its six Regional Centres based at Agra, Bellary, Chandigarh, Kota, Ootacomand and Vasad have been conducting studies on soil erosion and land degradation problems in broadly three different regions *i.e.* Hill region Ravinous areas and black soils areas. The studies and estimates made by the Institute indicate that soil losses range from 2.40 to 112.50 tonnes per ha. per year under various land uses. A number of soil and water conservation techniques, ranging from agronomic and biological measures to conservation structures, have been evolved with a view to help in conserving soil and moisture while improving productivity of land. The Government, keep in view these results while formulating soil and water conservation and watershed management programmes. The inputs of the Scientists of the Institute are also obtained through their participation in joint field visits, organizing short-orientation courses, deliberations of Standing or Coordination Committees, Study Groups, etc. In this process, the Institute and Regional Stations also get an opportunity to have the feed back of the problems encountered in implementing various developmental programmes.

Indebtedness of the Agricultural Family

2232. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per a recent survey conducted by the National Sample Survey organisation an agricultural family in the rural area is found to be more indebted than other in a village;

(b) if so, what was the state-wise break-up of the indebtedness during the last three years year-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that because of indebtedness the small and marginal farmers are being compelled to sell their holdings and are turning themselves to landless agricultural labourers; and

(d) if so, what was the fall in the number of agricultural holdings during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise and the increase in the number of landless agricultural labourers who earlier were small marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) No. Sir. The Fourth Decennial All India Debt and Investment Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation from January to December, 1982 has, *inter-alia*, indicated that average value of debt per indebted household is much less in the rural sector than in urban sector. The figure is Rs. 3311 in the rural sector and Rs. 5930 in the urban sector. The percentage of indebted households to all households is, however, marginally higher in rural sector being 20 as against 17 in the urban areas. State-wise break-up of indebtedness, as revealed in 1982 survey, is given in the attached Statement. (*See* Appendix No. CXL-II, Annexure No. 112). Year-wise details regarding rural indebtedness are not collected and are not available.